

CLAIMS

1. An orally administered agent comprising a drug-containing layer and a water-swellaable gel-forming layer, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming layer is provided as an outermost layer of said orally administered agent.

2. The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said orally administered agent is a film-shaped preparation.

3. The orally administered agent according to claim 2, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming layer contains a water-swellaable gel-forming agent and a film-forming agent.

4. The orally administered agent according to claim 3, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming agent is a cross-linked carboxyvinyl polymer, and said film-forming agent is a polyvinyl alcohol.

5. The orally administered agent according to claim 4, wherein said cross-linked carboxyvinyl polymer is a carboxyvinyl polymer cross-linked by a polyvalent metal compound.

6. The orally administered agent according to any of claims 3 through 5, wherein the content of said water-swellaable gel-forming agent in said water-swellaable gel-forming layer is 15 to 70wt%, and the content of said film-forming agent in said water-swellaable gel-forming layer is 30 to 85wt%.

7. The orally administered agent according to any of claims 1 through 6, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming layer can mask the taste and/or smell of a drug contained in said

drug-containing layer.

8. The orally administered agent according to any of claims 1 through 7, wherein said drug-containing layer contains an edible polymer as a base.

9. The orally administered agent according to claim 8, wherein said edible polymer is cellulose and/or a cellulose derivative.

10. The orally administered agent according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the content of said edible polymer in said drug-containing layer is at least 20wt%.

11. An orally administered agent/supporting substrate complex comprising the orally administered agent according to any of claims 1 through 10, and a supporting substrate that supports the orally administered agent, wherein said orally administered agent is provided on said supporting substrate either directly or via an intermediate layer.

12. The orally administered agent/supporting substrate complex according to claim 11, wherein said supporting substrate has a gripping part and a mouth-inserting part, and said orally administered agent is provided on said mouth-inserting part.